



Project Health

PANHANDLE PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION, INC.

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Project Health Raises Money for Public Health

The purchase of a few used books, records, movies, games or puzzles this month can help continue programs in northern Idaho that offer colon cancer screening to people with low incomes, match seniors with companions who can help them or teach parents how to protect their children from sexual abuse.

Project Health, the non-profit Panhandle Public Health Foundation, will hold its annual Used Book Etc. Sale Feb. 11 and 12 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Panhandle Health District (PHD) office in Hayden, 8500 N. Atlas Rd.

As a bonus, book sale shoppers can get their H1N1 vaccinations free at PHD from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 12.

The annual sale raises money for grants that Project Health awards to programs that benefit public health in the five northern counties. Project Health has supported Bonners Partners in Care, a clinic for the uninsured and underinsured in Bonner County; an oral health project to protect the teeth of 600 northern Idaho children; the Senior Companions program; an ICARE program to prevent child sexual abuse; colon cancer screening for low-income women; and a program to reduce child abuse and neglect.

The public health foundation began eight years ago to help raise money for public health programs, such as disease prevention and drinking water protection, that never had enough funding. Panhandle Health District receives some financial support from the state and the five northern counties it serves. PHD also supports its programs through grants, contracts and fees for services. Fees, though, vary by the income level of its clients.

Budget cutbacks during the last 18 months from the state and counties have magnified the need for help from a good-Samaritan foundation such as Project Health. Public health reaches out to the masses. It protects society with immunizations, vaccines during outbreaks, restaurant inspections, cancer screening, programs to prevent sexually transmitted diseases and much more.

Project Health awarded \$5,000 last year from money raised from the Annual Used Book Etc. Sale and Pedalin' for Project Health, an annual bike ride that will reach all five counties this June.

For more information on the Used Book Etc. Sale, call 415-5103 or e-mail projecthealthpphf@gmail.com.

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